

Press Release



Senator Maida Coleman – 5th Senatorial District
Missouri Senate Minority Floor Leader



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Senator Coleman Assumes Senate Minority Floor Leader Post

Gears Up For September Veto Session, Coming Regular Session

JEFFERSON CITY – Senator Maida Coleman, D-St. Louis, this week earned the top Democratic leadership post in the Missouri Senate following the departure of Senator Ken Jacob, who resigned his senate seat and minority party floor leader post to accept a gubernatorial appointment. Assistant minority floor leader through the 2004 regular legislative session, Senator Coleman automatically now ascends to the top spot.

“I’m happy to take on the added responsibilities of full floor leadership for my fellow Democrats in the Missouri Senate,” Sen. Coleman said. “The honor and privilege are mine.”

Members of both political parties in each chamber of the General Assembly rely on their respective floor leaders to help shepherd and expedite key bills through the legislative process by building support and alleviating opposition. Senator Coleman’s immediate duties include preparing for the legislature’s annual September session that affords lawmakers the chance to overturn vetoes on bills from the regular session.

“Fortunately, the governor wasn’t forced to veto nearly as many bills this year as he had to last session, so early indications show this veto session could be considerably less active than in 2003,” Sen. Coleman said. “But, naturally, things can and do change – especially where 34 senators and 163 representatives are involved – so I am working to be ready for anything.”

House and Senate caucuses will choose the full slate of party leadership posts following the November elections.

“I am pleased and honored to serve senate Democrats in whatever capacity they so desire,” said Sen. Coleman, noting she would gladly accept permanent installation as minority floor leader if the opportunity arose. “Whatever the case may be, my door is always open to lawmakers from both sides of the aisle as we work to make Missouri a better place to live, work and raise our families.”

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